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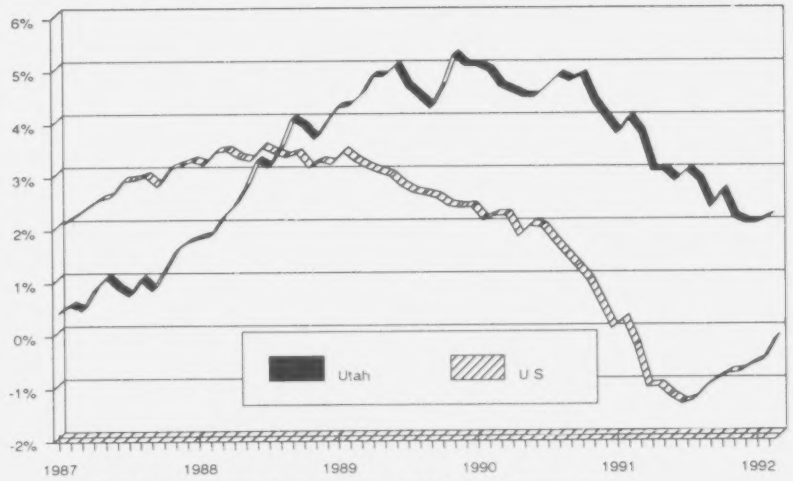
Utah Labor Market Report

February 1992
Volume 2, No. 2

Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services

Utah continues to hold out against national jobless trends

Who would have thought that during a national downturn Utah's unemployment rate would drop for three months straight?

But, that's what happened. The State's jobless rate fell to 4.7 percent in February—down two-tenths of a percentage point causing the gap between Utah's jobless rate and the nation's rate to widen to 2.6 percentage points this month.

Fewer new entrants and re-entrants to Utah's labor force pushed Utah's unemployment rate down in February. Roughly 38,600 Utahns were out of work during February 1992—2,700 more than in February 1991 but 1,400 fewer than in January 1992.

Of course, job growth is often a better indicator of economic well-being than is the unemployment rate. Did Utah continue to create more jobs in February? It did. However, the State's rate of job growth has slowed significantly over the past twelve months. Nevertheless, Utah has created new jobs throughout the national economic downturn. Since February 1991, Utah has added 16,300 net new jobs to its labor market—an increase of 2.2 percent.

Nevertheless, a number of industries have felt the repercussions of the U.S. recession and cuts in defense spending. Mining, manufacturing, and the federal government have all lost jobs.

Manufacturing has sustained the hardest blows, losing 3,800 jobs since February 1991. Both durable goods and nondurable goods have been affected. Not surprisingly, defense-related

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THE RATE *(Seasonally Adjusted)*

Feb 1992	Utah	4.7%	U.S.	7.3%
Jan 1992	Utah	4.9%	U.S.	7.1%
Feb 1991	Utah	4.5%	U.S.	6.5%

NONFARM JOBS *(% change from a year ago)*

Feb 1992	Utah	2.2%	U.S.	-0.2%

CPI-U *(Base Year 1982-84 = 100)*

Jan 1992	U.S.	138.1	Yr-over chng	2.6%

PPI *(Base Year 1982-84 = 100)*

Jan 1991	U.S.	115.6	Yr-over chng	-2.9%

manufacturing employment, particularly in transportation (aerospace) equipment production, is down substantially—almost 7 percent. However, some of the losses are not only the result of layoffs but of a reclassification which now categorizes them in wholesale trade. In other words, some of the 'lost' manufacturing jobs are lost not at all, they've simply been reclassified. Mining employment is also down 3.5 percent from February 1991—a loss of 300 jobs—all in the coal industry.

On the positive side, construction employment in Utah is up a whopping 9 percent—a gain of 2,400 jobs over the past twelve months. Construction continues to be one of the happy irregularities of the current slowdown. Strong growth in residential building has kept construction flying high during 1991, and lower interest rates and new nonresidential projects should sustain the trend in 1992.

The finance/insurance/real estate sector also turned in a remarkably strong growth rate—over 7 percent. This 2,500 job gain has resulted primarily from the location in Utah of several financial services telephone centers.

Although growth in the service sector has slowed somewhat, the industry still registered moderate 4 percent (7,700 jobs) year-over growth. And, the service industry continues to produce the largest number of net new jobs in Utah.

Trade turned in a rather lackluster 2.5 percent growth rate. This sector accounted for 4,300 net new jobs—partially as the result of the aforementioned reclassification. The expansion of several large national retail chains within the State should shore up trade employment in the months to come.

Employment in the public sector increased by 2 percent (2,900 new jobs) but continues to be hindered by the loss of 1,500 federal defense jobs.

The transportation/communications/utilities industry straggled in with a growth rate of slightly more than 1 percent. This industry's 600-job gain occurred primarily in reservation services in air transportation.

The good news is that despite an increase in U.S. unemployment, the nation is starting to generate a net increase in jobs—a sign that the recovery is on its way. The positive information filtering through to the public seems to be spurring stronger consumer confidence which should push the economy forward. Fortunately, Utah has avoided its own recession in 1991 and should continue to do so in 1992.❐

Lecia Parks Langston
Chief Economist

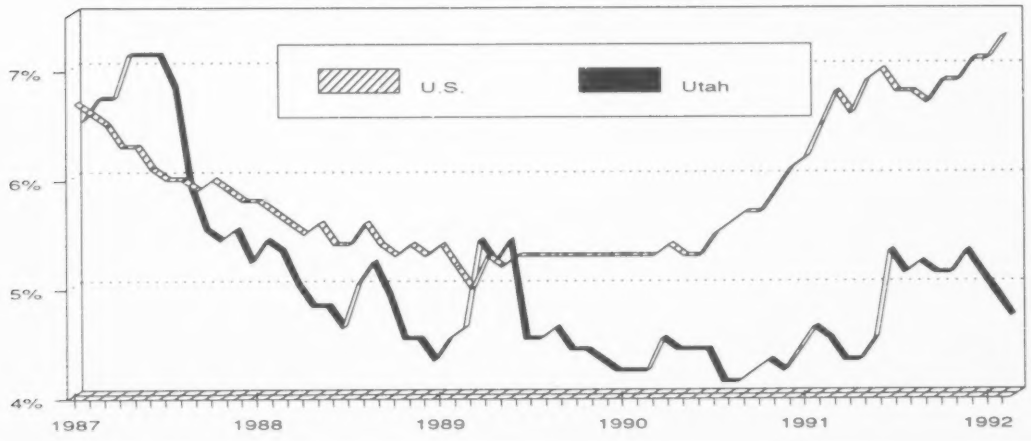
■ ***Only manufacturing and mining showed net job losses.***

■ ***Utah's unemployment rate slipped for the third straight month.***

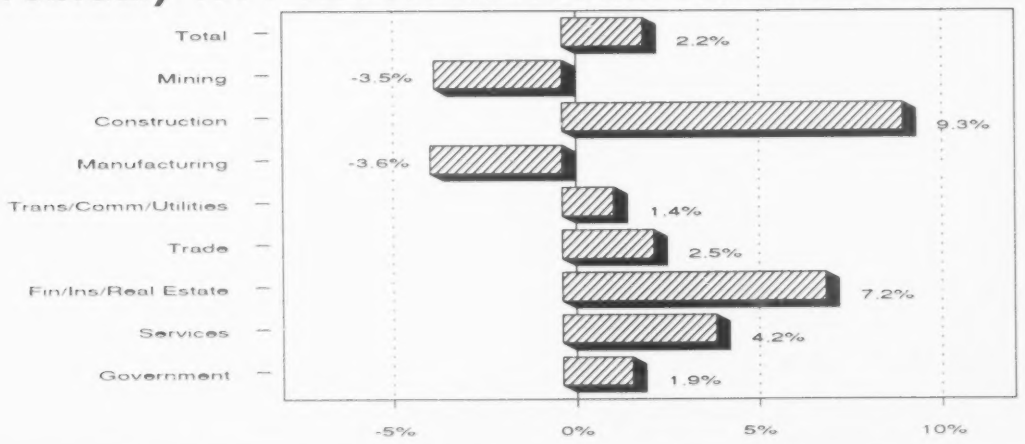
■ ***At 4.7 percent, Utah joblessness stands 2.6 points below the national average.***

■ ***Job growth in Utah has slowed considerably but remains positive with 2.2 percent year-over gain.***

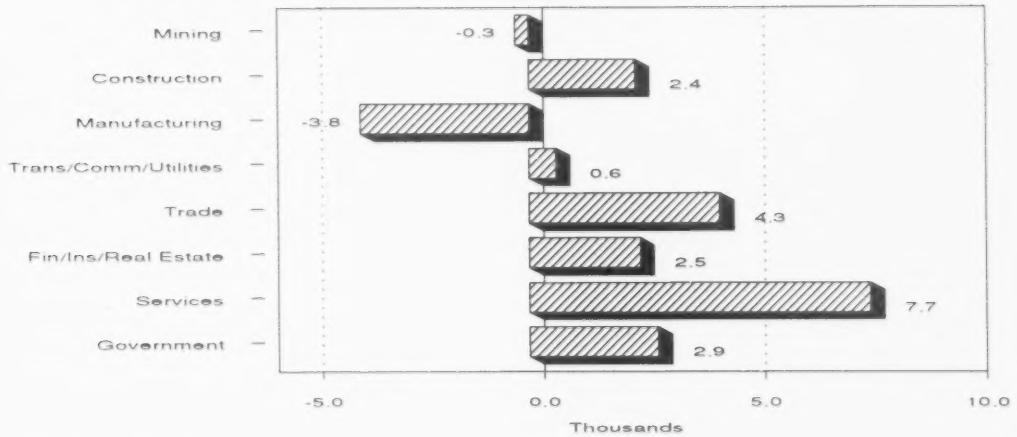
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates



February 1991-92 Percent Growth in Nonfarm Jobs



February 1991-92 Nonfarm Job Growth



Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services

RAW

Table 1. Utah Civilian Labor Force and Nonagricultural Jobs, Not Seasonally Adjusted *(Numbers in Thousands)*

	Feb 19901(f)	Feb 1990	Percent Change	Jan 1991(p)	Dec 1991(r)
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	**804.0**	**789.5**	**1.8**	**800.0**	**811.9**
Employed	**763.0**	**751.2**	**1.6**	**759.0**	**775.0**
Unemployed	**41.0**	**38.3**	**7.0**	**41.0**	**36.9**
Percent of Labor Force	4.6	5.1	4.9	—	5.1	4.5
NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	**754.8**	**729.5**	**2.2**	**740.2**	**762.4**
Mining	**8.3**	**8.6**	**-3.5**	**8.3**	**8.5**
Metal Mining	2.9	2.9	0.0	2.9	3.0
Bituminous Coal Mining	2.1	2.5	-16.0	2.1	2.1
Oil/Gas Extraction & Quarrying*	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.4
Contract Construction	**28.1**	**25.7**	**9.3**	**27.7**	**32.2**
Manufacturing	**102.9**	**106.7**	**-3.6**	**102.8**	**105.2**
Durable Goods	67.9	70.8	-4.1	68.2	69.5
Primary Metals	*5.8*	*5.9*	*-1.7*	*5.9*	*5.9*
Fabricated Metals, Machinery, & Computers	*14.0*	*14.3*	*-2.1*	*13.9*	*14.0*
Electrical/Electric Equipment (ex. Computers)	*9.5*	*11.6*	*-18.1*	*9.5*	*9.6*
Transportation Equipment	*16.2*	*17.4*	*-6.9*	*16.3*	*17.0*
*Lumber/Furniture,Stone/Clay/Glass**	*9.8*	*9.6*	*2.1*	*9.9*	*10.2*
*Other Durable Goods**	*12.6*	*12.0*	*5.0*	*12.7*	*12.8*
Nondurable Goods	35.0	35.9	-2.5	34.6	35.7
Food & Related Products	*11.2*	*11.3*	*-0.9*	*11.1*	*11.8*
*Other Nondurable Goods**	*23.8*	*24.6*	*-3.3*	*23.5*	*23.9*
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	**42.3**	**41.7**	**1.4**	**42.2**	**43.4**
Railroad Transportation	2.5	2.5	0.0	2.5	2.5
Trucking & Warehousing	15.3	15.0	2.0	15.2	16.2
Transportation by Air*	7.1	6.5	9.2	7.1	7.1
Other Transportation & Related Services*	3.2	3.3	-3.0	3.2	3.3
Communications	6.6	6.7	-1.5	6.7	6.7
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	7.6	7.7	-1.3	7.5	7.6
Trade	**176.0**	**171.7**	**2.5**	**176.9**	**186.3**
Wholesale Trade	41.2	39.1	5.4	41.1	41.8
*Durable Goods**	*24.2*	*22.8*	*6.1*	*24.2*	*24.8*
*Nondurable Goods**	*17.0*	*16.3*	*4.3*	*16.9*	*17.0*
Retail Trade	134.8	132.6	1.7	135.8	144.5
Food Stores	*24.1*	*23.6*	*2.1*	*24.2*	*24.8*
Auto Dealers/Parts Stores, & Gas Stations	*15.3*	*15.3*	*0.0*	*15.3*	*15.8*
Eating & Drinking Places	*43.6*	*42.8*	*1.9*	*42.8*	*44.5*
*Home Furniture/Equipment & Clothing Stores**	*12.7*	*11.9*	*6.7*	*13.1*	*14.2*
*Gen. Merchandise/Building & Garden Supply**	*21.3*	*21.6*	*-1.4*	*22.6*	*25.0*
Miscellaneous Retail	*17.8*	*17.4*	*2.3*	*17.8*	*20.2*
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	**37.3**	**34.8**	**7.2**	**36.8**	**37.2**
Depository Institutions*	13.3	13.0	2.3	13.2	13.3
Other Finance/Insurance/Real Estate*	24.0	21.8	10.1	23.6	23.9
Services	192.6	184.9	4.2	189.4	193.8
Hotels & Lodging Places	13.4	12.7	3.9	13.0	13.0
Personal, Amusement & Recreational*	18.6	18.3	1.6	18.2	18.4
Computer-Related*	9.6	8.9	7.9	9.6	9.6
Other Business Services*	31.3	30.3	3.3	30.3	32.5
Auto Repair/Rental/Parking*	6.5	6.5	0.0	6.5	6.6
Health	50.0	46.7	7.1	49.5	50.2
Education/Social & Membership Organizations*	38.3	37.8	1.3	37.4	38.4
Legal & Miscellaneous Services	5.2	5.1	2.0	5.3	5.3
Engineering, Accounting, & Related*	15.2	14.2	7.0	14.9	14.8
Other Repair/Ag. Services & Museums, etc.*	4.7	4.4	6.8	4.7	5.0
Government	**158.3**	**155.4**	**1.9**	**156.1**	**155.8**
Federal Government	38.0	39.1	-2.8	37.7	37.3
*U.S. Defense**	*18.5*	*20.0*	*-7.5*	*18.7*	*18.7*
*Other Federal**	*19.5*	*19.1*	*2.1*	*19.0*	*18.6*
State Government	46.2	44.7	3.4	45.1	44.2
*State Education**	*26.0*	*25.0*	*4.0*	*25.0*	*24.2*
*Other State**	*20.2*	*19.7*	*2.5*	*20.1*	*20.0*
Local Government	74.1	71.6	3.5	73.3	74.3
*Public School Districts**	*47.8*	*46.5*	*2.8*	*47.2*	*48.0*
*Other Local**	*26.3*	*25.1*	*4.8*	*26.1*	*26.3*

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services. Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). NOTE: Forecast data and cells marked by an asterisk (*) are not sanctioned by BLS. Some figures are not strictly comparable due to reclassification

ADJUSTED

Table 2. Utah Civilian Labor Force and Nonagricultural Jobs Seasonally Adjusted *(Numbers in Thousands)*

	Feb 1992(f)	Feb 1991	Percent Change	Jan 1992(p)	Dec 1991(r)
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	**817.6**	**803.4**	**1.8**	**815.0**	**806.4**
Employed	**779.0**	**767.5**	**1.5**	**775.0**	**765.4**
Unemployed	**38.6**	**35.9**	**7.5**	**40.0**	**41.0**
Percent of Labor Force	4.7	4.5	---	4.9	5.1
NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	**755.8**	**739.1**	**2.3**	**750.4**	**753.9**
Mining	**8.2**	**8.5**	**-3.5**	**8.1**	**8.1**
Contract Construction	**33.6**	**30.7**	**9.3**	**32.6**	**32.9**
Manufacturing	**104.4**	**108.2**	**-3.6**	**104.6**	**105.0**
Durable Goods	68.8	71.8	-4.1	69.1	69.7
Nondurable Goods	35.6	36.5	-2.5	35.4	35.3
Trans., Comm., Public Utilities	**42.8**	**42.1**	**1.4**	**42.9**	**43.0**
Trade	**180.8**	**176.4**	**2.5**	**179.5**	**179.2**
Wholesale	41.8	39.7	5.4	41.7	41.5
Retail	139.0	136.7	1.7	137.8	137.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**37.5**	**35.0**	**7.2**	**37.1**	**37.2**
Services	**192.3**	**184.6**	**4.2**	**189.9**	**193.5**
Government	**156.3**	**153.5**	**1.8**	**155.7**	**154.8**
Federal Government	38.3	39.4	-2.8	38.2	37.9
State Government	44.6	43.1	3.4	44.3	43.6
Local Government	73.3	70.9	3.5	73.3	73.4

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Table 3. Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Utah

	Average Hourly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours			
	Jan 1992(p)	Jan 1991	% Chng	Dec 1991(r)	Jan 1992(p)	Jan 1990	% Chng	Dec 1991(r)
MINING	**15.22**	**14.77**	**3.0**	**14.92**	**45.4**	**43.0**	**5.6**	**44.8**
Metal Mining	13.77	13.36	3.1	13.66	45.9	43.0	6.7	47.4
Bituminous Coal Mining	18.55	17.18	8.0	18.45	39.9	43.0	-7.2	44.5
MANUFACTURING	**11.04**	**10.47**	**5.4**	**11.05**	**38.8**	**39.4**	**-1.5**	**41.3**
Durable Goods	11.39	10.71	6.3	11.31	38.9	39.8	-2.3	41.8
Primary Metals	14.41	13.15	9.6	14.00	43.3	41.5	4.3	42.3
Fabricated Metal Prod. and Mach.	10.74	10.06	6.8	10.56	39.3	39.3	0.0	40.9
Transportation Equipment	14.39	13.33	8.0	13.81	41.4	41.7	-0.7	41.6
Nondurable Goods	10.36	9.98	3.8	10.55	38.5	38.5	0.0	40.5
Food and Kindred Products	9.58	8.82	8.6	9.63	38.6	38.5	0.3	41.7
TRADE	**8.07**	**7.70**	**4.8**	**7.92**	**28.1**	**28.4**	**-1.1**	**29.5**
Wholesale	10.33	10.16	1.7	10.37	34.5	38.2	-9.7	36.3
Retail	7.27	6.73	8.0	7.08	26.4	25.8	2.3	27.7
Food Stores	7.60	6.03	26.0	7.46	25.3	26.0	-2.7	25.6
General Merchandise	6.17	6.04	2.2	6.28	27.2	25.4	7.1	30.7

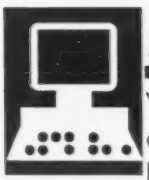
Note: Average hours include hours actually worked or remunerated. Average hourly earnings include incentive and premium pay. Data may be affected by labor disputes.

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services. Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Economic Events

Please note: Information contained in Economic Events is obtained from regional newspapers, local Job Service offices, trade publications, clipping services, and local area Chamber of Commerce publications.

- Questar, the parent company of Mountain Fuel Supply, announced that it is implementing an aggressive plan to increase its reserves of natural gas through increased drilling and the purchasing of other company's reserves. Questar envisions natural gas as the energy source of the future, and is taking advantage of a "window of opportunity" to increase its holdings of gas reserves. This move is in contrast to other companies in the business which are discounting the natural gas outlook.
- A Phoenix-based pet food and supply "superstore" will enter the Utah market with a 25,000 square-foot store in Layton. PETsMART will locate on property they have purchased on Highway 232. The store will be built in a "warehouse style," and will sell pet food, medication, fish, and birds, in addition to offering obedience training centers and grooming facilities for dogs. The company will also open two stores in the Salt Lake area. The stores generally employ 30 to 35 people.
- Ogden-based Jetway Systems has been awarded two contracts by Continental Airlines valued at $495,000. Jetway Systems manufactures aircraft passenger boarding bridges and ground power equipment. Continental's order is for aircraft and two baggage tractors.
- In January, Soldier Creek Coal Company (located near Wellington in Carbon County) notified all of its approximately 130 employees that the company is reorganizing the workforce at the mine which would come in the form of layoffs or temporary suspension of operations. The action is prompted by the buildup of stockpiled coal, which is the result of suspended coal shipments to one of the mine's major customers.
- Two recent congressional studies conclude that cuts in the nation's defense spending could have adverse effects on Utah's economy. The study predicts that the cutbacks may reduce the State's total economic output by 0.5 to 1 percent by 1995. Hill Air Force Base, the State's largest employer, recently announced that it will lay off 4,500 workers, or 25 percent of its work force, over the course of the next six years. But the Utah Congressional delegation indicates cuts will be made through attrition. The study indicates that the cuts will have a strong effect on the State because Utah is one of six states that are heavily dependent on defense industries.❐



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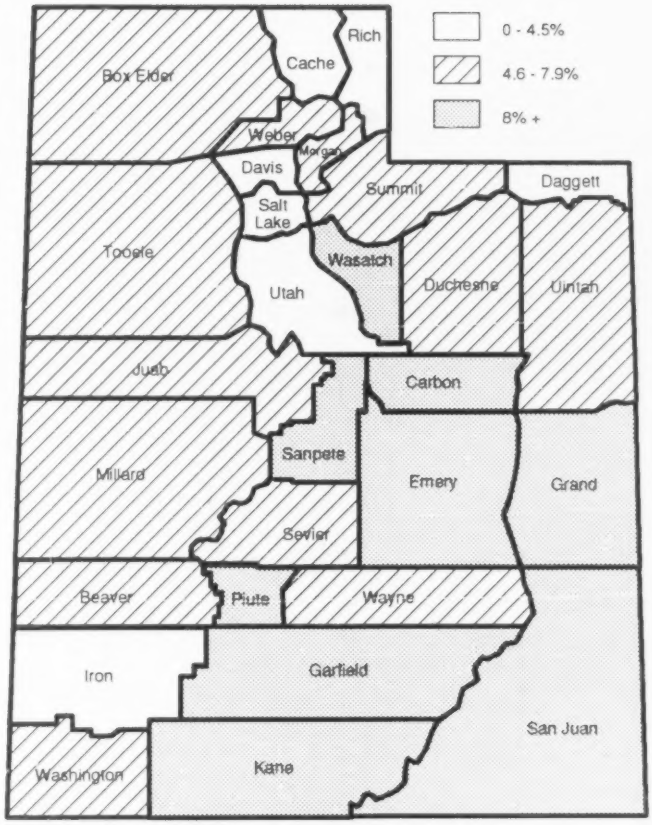
Economic conditions within Utah vary widely

The economic slowdown that has spread across Utah is two-pronged—reductions in the national defense budget and the recession that has gripped the nation. However, a few Utah counties seem to have dodged these influences.

Notable among rapidly-growing economies is Grand County. The tourism boom in the Moab area has pushed nonfarm jobs up 14 percent from a year ago. These new jobs are concentrated in trade, construction, and services. However, unemployment remains temporarily high because of a mismatch between available jobs and the skills of the unemployed.

The Washington County and Iron County economies are also expanding with nonfarm employment growth in the 4 to 5 percent range and unemployment rates near 5 percent. Growth in Park City tourism and recreation has kept Summit County growing even more rapidly but with slightly higher unemployment.

Duchesne County's indicators have reflected surprising economic strength in the past few months. Expansion in mining, construction, and government jobs have kept nonfarm job growth and unemployment both near 6 percent. However, March layoffs in mining and manufacturing will sharply alter these trends and bode a much leaner spring, while neighboring Uintah County is already seeing much slower job growth.



Unemployment Rates February 1992

Salt Lake and Utah counties are the mainstays of Utah's economy. Together they are responsible for 13,000 of the 16,000 net new jobs created in Utah in the past 12 months, and their unemployment rates (near 4 percent) are some of the lowest in the State.

Davis, Weber, Cache, and Box Elder counties are producing new jobs at much

Continued on page 8

■ ***The tourism boom inthe Moab area has pushed nonfarm jobs up 14 percent from a year ago.***

■ ***The decline in the sawmill industry has left Garfield County struggling with serious economic difficulties.***

■ ***Salt Lake and Utah counties are the maintays of Utah's economy, producing 13,000 of 16,000 new jobs.***

Continued from page 7

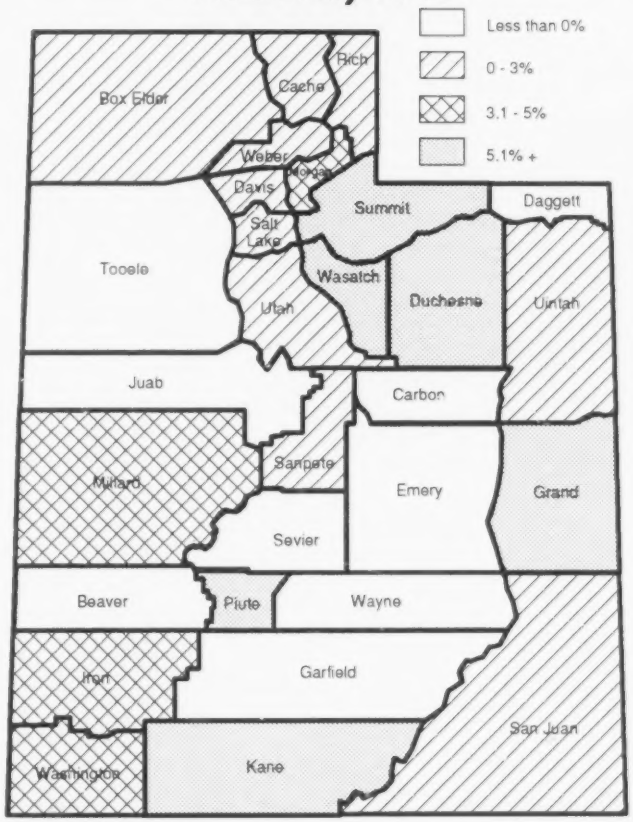
slower rates (between 0 and 1.5 percent). Nevertheless, despite defense-related and recession-related layoffs hitting Northern Utah, unemployment remains very low (4 percent) in Davis and Cache, and near 5 percent in Weber and Box Elder.

The March layoff of Carbon County coal miners will soon impact the already dismal unemployment rate and nonfarm employment total. Emery County's current labor market indicators are in even worse shape than Carbon's, and San Juan County is only slightly better off.

The decline in the sawmill industry has left Garfield County struggling with serious economic difficulties. Jobs are down 10 percent from a year ago, and its unemployment rate is nearly 20 percent.❐

Kenneth E. Jensen
Labor Market Economist

Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs February 1992



METRO AREAS

Table 4. Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Jobs for SaltLake/Ogden and Provo/Orem Metropolitan Statistical Areas *(Numbers in Thousands)*

	Salt Lake/Ogden					Provo/Orem				
	Feb 1992(f)	Feb 1991	Percent Change	Jan 1992(p)	Dec 1991(r)	Feb 1992(f)	Feb 1991	Percent Change	Jan 1992(p)	Dec 1991(r)
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	**518.7**	**515.9**	**0.5**	**517.6**	**525.6**	**121.1**	**116.8**	3.7	**120.2**	**123.8**
Employed	494.2	493.0	0.2	493.1	502.8	115.7	112.0	3.3	114.5	118.7
Unemployed	24.5	22.9	7.0	24.5	22.8	5.4	4.8	12.5	5.7	5.1
Rate	4.7	4.4	——	4.7	4.3	4.5	4.1	——	4.7	4.1
TOTAL NONFARM JOBS	**507.0**	**495.1**	**2.4**	**502.8**	**517.4**	**100.3**	**97.5**	**2.9**	**99.4**	**103.7**
Mining	3.0	2.9	3.4	3.0	3.1	--	--	--	--	--
Construction	19.4	17.8	9.0	19.0	22.0	4.0	3.3	21.2	3.9	4.7
Manufacturing	66.3	69.0	-3.9	66.2	67.8	13.8	14.1	-2.1	13.8	13.8
Durable	45.0	48.0	-6.3	45.3	46.2	8.8	8.8	0.0	8.8	8.8
Nondurable	21.3	21.0	1.4	20.9	21.6	5.0	5.3	-5.7	5.0	5.0
Trans/Comm/Utilities	33.1	32.2	2.8	33.0	34.1	2.2	2.5	-12.0	2.2	2.3
Trade	123.5	120.3	2.7	124.1	130.4	22.5	22.3	0.9	22.6	24.5
Wholesale	33.2	31.0	7.1	33.1	33.7	4.9	4.9	0.0	4.9	4.8
Retail	90.3	89.3	1.1	91.0	96.7	17.6	17.4	1.1	17.7	19.7
Fin/Ins/Real Estate	30.8	28.4	8.5	30.4	30.8	2.4	2.4	0.0	2.4	2.4
Service	128.0	123.2	3.9	125.9	128.6	39.4	37.7	4.5	38.6	40.0
Government	102.9	101.3	1.6	101.2	100.6	15.9	15.2	4.6	15.8	15.9

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services

COUNTIES

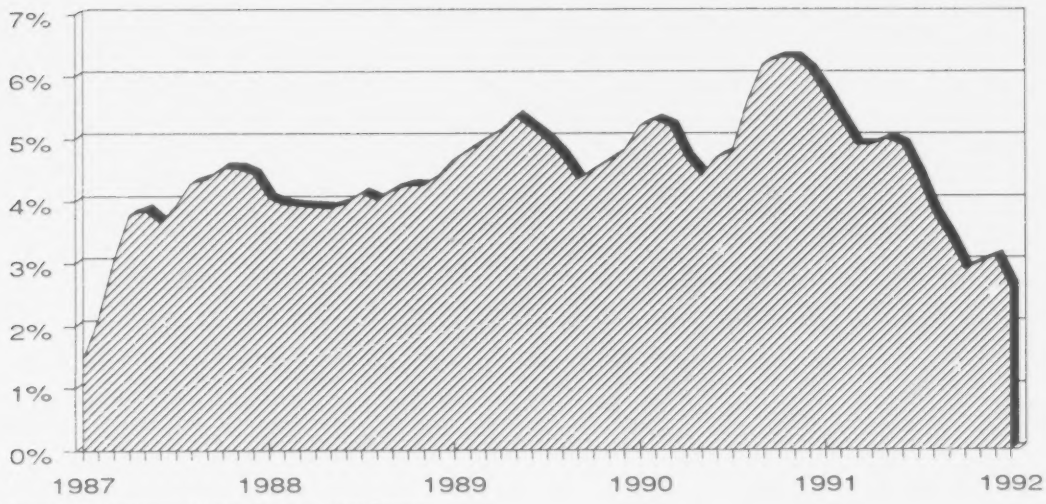
Table 5. Unemployment Rates and Nonfarm Jobs in Utah by County

	Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate				Nonfarm Wage and Salary Jobs				
	Feb 1992(f)	Jan 1992(p)	Dec 1991(r)	Feb 1991	Feb 1992(f)	Feb 1991	Percent Change	Jan 1992(p)	Dec 1991(r)
STATE TOTAL	**4.7**	**4.9**	**5.1**	**4.5**	**745,800**	**729,500**	**2.2**	**740,200**	**762,400**
Bear River	**4.2**	**4.9**	**3.7**	**4.2**	**44,530**	**44,330**	**0.5**	**44,280**	**45,170**
Box Elder	4.6	5.0	4.6	4.4	15,060	14,850	1.4	15,060	15,410
Cache	4.1	4.9	3.3	4.1	29,120	29,130	0.0	28,880	29,400
Rich	1.7	4.1	1.5	2.1	350	350	0.0	340	360
Wasatch Front	**4.3**	**4.7**	**5.1**	**4.1**	**518,000**	**506,250**	**2.3**	**513,870**	**528,640**
Wasatch Front North	**4.5**	**5.0**	**5.4**	**4.3**	**126,670**	**125,120**	**1.2**	**125,840**	**129,220**
Davis	3.7	4.3	4.8	3.8	58,250	57,600	1.1	58,060	60,190
Morgan	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.0	1,040	1,000	4.0	1,040	1,070
Weber	5.2	5.6	6.0	4.8	67,380	66,520	1.3	66,740	67,960
Wasatch Front South	**4.2**	**4.6**	**4.9**	**4.0**	**391,330**	**381,130**	**2.7**	**388,030**	**399,420**
Salt Lake	4.2	4.5	4.9	4.0	381,300	370,990	2.8	377,990	389,210
Tooele	4.9	6.0	6.7	4.1	10,030	10,140	-1.1	10,040	10,210
Mountainland	**4.1**	**4.7**	**4.4**	**3.7**	**113,240**	**109,750**	**3.2**	**112,190**	**116,150**
Summit	6.3	5.0	6.8	6.0	10,620	10,050	5.7	10,540	9,920
Utah	3.8	4.5	4.1	3.4	100,180	97,380	2.9	99,210	103,680
Wasatch	8.1	8.2	9.3	6.0	2,440	2,320	5.2	2,440	2,550
Central	**6.5**	**7.1**	**8.3**	**6.9**	**14,910**	**14,830**	**0.5**	**14,880**	**15,710**
Juab	7.7	9.0	7.9	4.2	1,880	1,920	-2.1	1,880	1,920
Millard	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	3,290	3,170	3.8	3,280	3,360
Piute	10.7	11.8	14.4	16.3	200	190	5.3	200	210
Sanpete	8.1	8.3	11.5	10.1	4,260	4,210	1.2	4,270	4,720
Sevier	5.3	6.4	7.0	5.2	4,820	4,870	-1.0	4,790	4,990
Wayne	6.6	7.7	10.4	7.6	460	470	-2.1	460	510
Southwestern	**5.9**	**5.7**	**6.1**	**5.6**	**27,860**	**26,880**	**3.6**	**27,680**	**28,700**
Beaver	4.6	4.9	6.6	3.5	1,290	1,340	-3.7	1,290	1,320
Garfield	18.6	18.6	16.4	10.5	1,040	1,150	-9.6	1,050	1,220
Iron	4.4	4.8	4.7	5.1	8,110	7,830	3.6	8,070	8,240
Kane	8.8	7.8	6.2	7.5	1,350	1,260	7.1	1,350	1,520
Washington	5.1	5.1	5.9	5.4	16,070	15,300	5.0	15,920	16,400
Uintah Basin	**5.8**	**7.0**	**8.6**	**4.9**	**11,040**	**10,720**	**3.0**	**11,120**	**11,450**
Daggett	2.9	3.7	3.9	3.8	250	270	-7.4	250	290
Duchesne	5.6	7.6	9.7	5.3	3,930	3,710	5.9	4,000	4,020
Uintah	6.0	6.8	8.2	4.7	6,860	6,740	1.8	6,870	7,140
Southeastern	**8.5**	**8.8**	**9.6**	**7.5**	**16,250**	**16,500**	**-1.5**	**16,210**	**16,610**
Carbon	8.2	8.5	9.3	6.0	7,400	7,740	-4.4	7,420	7,520
Emery	8.8	10.0	12.0	8.2	3,230	3,480	-7.2	3,230	3,320
Grand	8.5	8.5	7.2	7.7	2,390	2,090	14.4	2,340	2,530
San Juan	8.7	8.8	10.3	9.7	3,230	3,190	1.3	3,220	3,240
Salt Lake/Ogden MSA	**4.3**	**4.7**	**5.0**	**4.0**	**507,000**	**495,000**	**2.4**	**502,800**	**517,400**
Provo/Orem MSA	**3.8**	**4.5**	**4.1**	**3.4**	**100,180**	**97,380**	**2.9**	**99,210**	**103,680**

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

Note: Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates should not be used for federal or state funding applications.

Year-over Percent Increase in U.S. Consumer Price Index



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

PRICES

Table 6. Current U.S. Price Indexes

	INDEX		% CHANGE FROM	
	Jan 1992	Jan 1991	Prior Year	Prior Month
CONSUMER PRICES (1982-84=100)				
ALL ITEMS (CPI-U[1])	**138.1**	**134.6**	**2.6**	**0.1**
Food and Beverages	137.9	135.9	1.5	0.4
Food at Home	136.4	136.4	0.0	0.7
Housing	135.7	131.8	3.0	0.5
Rent Residential	145.4	141.2	3.0	2.9
Fuel and Other Utilities	116.2	114.8	1.2	0.2
Medical Care	184.3	171.0	7.8	0.9
Apparel and Upkeep	127.9	123.8	3.3	-1.3
Transportation	124.5	125.5	-0.8	-1.5
Gasoline	94.3	108.0	-12.7	-3.9
Energy[3]	100.1	107.1	-6.5	-1.8
PURCHASING POWER OF CONSUMER DOLLAR: (1982-84 = $1.00)	**$0.724**	**$0.743**	**-2.6**	**-0.1**
ALL ITEMS (CPI-W[2])	**136.0**	**132.8**	**2.4**	**0.1**
PRODUCER PRICES (1982 = 100)				
ALL COMMODITIES	**115.6**	**119.0**	**-2.9**	**-0.3**
Finished Goods	121.7	122.3	-0.5	-0.2
Intermediate Materials	113.2	116.4	-2.7	-0.4
Crude Materials	97.3	112.8	-13.7	-0.4

1 Consumer Price Index—All Urban Consumers.

2 Consumer Price Index—Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers.

3 Energy is a special group index consisting of prices paid for the following: fuel oil, coal, bottled gas, electricity, gasoline, and motor oil and coolant. It is not one of the components of the "All Items" as its sub-components are already included.

Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statisitcs.

Figures and Facts from Uncle Sam's Almanac

The *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, a publication of the Commerce Department's Census Bureau was recently released. Among other interesting facts, the *Abstract* includes the following items:

- *The three most densely populated states are New Jersey (1,042 persons per square mile), Rhode Island (960 persons per square mile), and Massachusetts (768 persons per square mile).*
- *During 1989, $148.5 billion was lost due to accidents. Roughly 25 percent ($37.7 billion) consisted of lost wages.*
- *While Denver may be the "mile high city," the mile-high average elevation club includes five states—Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.*
- *In 1989, 38 percent of employed persons used a computer at work. The use of a computer increased with educational attainment.*
- *Nearly one out of every four children under six years old lives in poverty.*
- *The number of women-owned firms increased over 57 percent from 1982 to 1987. Women-owned firms accounted for 30 percent of all firms in the United States.*

New Data, New Publications

The following data and/or publications are now available:

- ☐ ***Salt Lake/Ogden Area Wage Survey—October 1991***
- ☐ ***1991 Utah State Compensation Survey Summary Report of Salaries and Fringe Benefits***
- ☐ **Final Third Quarter 1991 Employment and Wages by County and Industry.**

If you would like to receive copies, please check the desired items and fill in your name and address.

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Mail to: Labor Market Information Services, Utah Department of Employment Security, P.O. Box 11249, Salt Lake City, UT, 84147-0249.

1991 Utah State Compensation Survey of Salaries and Fringe Benefits

The State of Utah surveys to find out how state workers' salaries compare with the market. The results of that survey provide wage information not available through other sources.

Editor's note: The 1991 Utah State Compensation Survey was a cooperative effort between the Utah State Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM) and the Utah Department of Employment Security. The primary purpose of the survey was to measure and compare salary and fringe benefit information in the local Utah market with the compensation paid to State of Utah employees.

This article summarizes the results of the 1991 Utah State Compensation Survey. Figures represent average and "middle range" salaries for the occupations included in the survey.

Roughly 400 Utah employers were asked to complete both a salary and fringe benefit questionnaire. Information was requested both on salary structures and the actual salaries paid to full-time workers in 57 occupations. The occupations surveyed represent "working level positions" with incumbents functioning at full performance levels.

A total of 195 employers responded to the survey representing a response rate of 49 percent. Although these employers accounted for less than 1 percent of all Utah employers, their employees accounted for 25 percent of total Utah employment.

The sample included employers in mining, construction, manufacturing, transportation/communications/utilities, wholesale and retail trade, finance/insurance/real estate, services, and government (including school districts).

Salary Tables

Data includes the weighted average monthly salary and the middle range of actual salaries for each occupation. The "middle range" includes the middle 50 percent of the salary distribution for all responses in the occupation. Salary data represents full-time workers and excludes overtime pay and bonuses. To protect employer confidentiality, information is included only for those occupations with responses from at least ten employers.

Continued on page 14

- ***Survey occupations represent "working level" positions—where employees are functioning at full performance levels.***
- ***The sample included 400 employers, stratified by size, industry, and geographic area.***
- ***The survey response rate equaled almost 50 percent.***
- ***The number of employees represented by responding employers equaled one-fourth of all employment in Utah.***
- ***Fringe benefit information covers all employees in the responding company.***

Table A. July 1991 Utah State Salary Survey, Weighted Average Monthly Salary And Middle Range Of Salaries

Occupation	Number of Employers Responding	Number of Employees Reported	Weighted Average Monthly Salary	Middle Range*	
Accountant	84	197	$2,516	$2,000	$3,060
Accounting Tech II	97	759	1,396	1,210	1,730
Auditor	25	87	2,720	2,120	3,130
Boiler Operator, Journey	16	163	2,248	1,860	2,460
Carpenter, Journey	25	228	2,224	1,920	2,340
Civil Engineer III	18	61	3,700	3,200	3,830
Computer Operator II	52	246	1,735	1,340	1,980
Computer Operator V (Shft Supv)	20	69	2,503	1,920	3,000
Custodian I	62	1,522	1,089	970	1,410
Data Terminal Tech. II	44	1,187	1,347	1,150	1,480
Electrician, Journey	49	497	2,372	2,040	2,480
Engineer II	30	410	3,144	2,740	3,270
Engineer III	25	240	3,958	3,770	4,350
Engineering Tech. II	22	99	2,043	1,880	2,350
Food Service Worker II	37	1,229	1,216	930	1,300
General Maintenance Worker II	57	344	1,592	1,300	1,860
Groundskeeper I	42	353	1,326	1,120	1,610
Heavy Equip. Operator, Journey	27	353	2,075	1,960	2,260
Highway Patrol Trooper II	14	338	2,027	1,950	2,190
Human Resource Analyst II	52	86	2,689	2,220	2,930
Information Specialist	29	45	2,603	2,240	3,030
Laboratory Tech.	14	83	1,995	1,850	2,210
Legal Counsel II	21	117	4,041	3,370	4,660
Maintenance Spec., Journey	43	397	2,180	1,850	2,350
Mechanic, Journey	46	429	2,168	1,950	2,410
Medical Claims Tech II	13	90	1,414	1,260	1,550
Nurse, Licensed Practical II	21	304	1,582	1,550	1,670
Nurse, RN - Clinical	26	423	2,395	2,180	2,540
Nurse Practitioner	19	22	2,922	2,660	3,470
Office Technician II	48	507	1,334	1,220	1,450
Painter, Journey	18	185	2,012	1,860	2,130
Plumber, Journey	21	132	2,116	1,810	2,360
Printer, Journey	14	89	1,874	1,690	2,280
Programmer Analyst II	59	442	3,002	2,340	3,150
Programmer II	33	238	2,243	1,950	2,520
Psychologist	14	102	3,541	2,860	3,680
Purchasing Agent III (Buyer)	65	322	2,505	1,920	3,310
Radio Dispatcher	11	68	1,584	1,560	1,630
Research Analyst	10	29	3,245	2,830	3,500
Secretary	119	2,235	1,483	1,300	1,630
Secretary, Legal I	21	91	1,870	1,500	2,100
Social Worker (MSW)	12	179	2,535	2,290	2,570
Software Spec II (Sys Programmer)	25	206	3,529	2,910	3,640
Telecommunications Specialist I	15	35	2,813	2,520	3,180
Telephone Operator	87	292	1,176	1,030	1,350
Trainer II	25	79	2,676	2,230	3,720
Warehouse Worker	55	624	1,543	1,140	1,880
Welder, Journey	24	376	2,430	1,870	2,470

* Middle range is the range of salaries representing the middle 50 percent of the salary distribution for all responses in the occupation. One-fourth of salaries reported were below the low end of the middle range and one-fourth of salaries reported were above the high end of the middle range.

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, LMI Services, November 1991.

Table B. July 1991 Fringe Benefit Survey Employer Costs As A Percent of Average Monthly Payroll

Category	Percent of Average Monthly Payroll for Employer-Paid Fringe Benefits Average	Middle Range
Overall Total	33%	29% - 36%
By Size of Employer (Number of Employees)		
Small (20 to 249)	31	25 - 34
Medium (250 to 499)	33	32 - 35
Large (500 or more)	36	32 - 42
By Major Industry*		
Manufacturing	31	28 - 33
Trade	32	28 - 33
Service	33	30 - 38
Government	38	33 - 42

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

* Insufficient response from employers in the mining, construction, transportation, and finance industry sectors precluded the release of benefit percentages.

Fringe Benefits

Table B summarizes the results of the fringe benefit portion of the survey. Fringe benefit data covers all employees in the responding company and are in percentage form. This figure represents the value of employer-paid fringe benefits as a percentage of the employer's overall average monthly salary. Both the average and the middle range of the percentages of payroll are shown. These data are estimates and portray the fringe benefits information from a sample of employers. They should be used only as general indicators of the percent value of fringe benefits. A quick sketch of fringe benefit information follows.

- **Health Insurance**—96 percent of all responding companies provided some form of health insurance.
- **Retirement**—two-thirds of companies responding provided some type of retirement plan.
- **Paid Sick Leave**—more than one in four companies had paid sick leave with an average of 7 days paid sick leave per year.
- **Paid Vacation Leave**—responding firms provided an average of 11 days of paid vacation.
- **Paid Holidays**—an average of 9 paid holidays were provided by responding companies.
- **Paid Personal Leave**—only one-fourth of the responding companies provided this benefit at an average of two to three days.
- **Tuition Assistance**—40 percent of these firms reported offering tuition assistance.
- **Discount of Goods/Services**—only 30 percent of companies provided this benefit.
- **Company Recreation Facilities**—19 percent of firms offered this benefit.
- **Year-End Bonuses**—slightly more than one-fourth of the responding companies reported giving bonuses❐

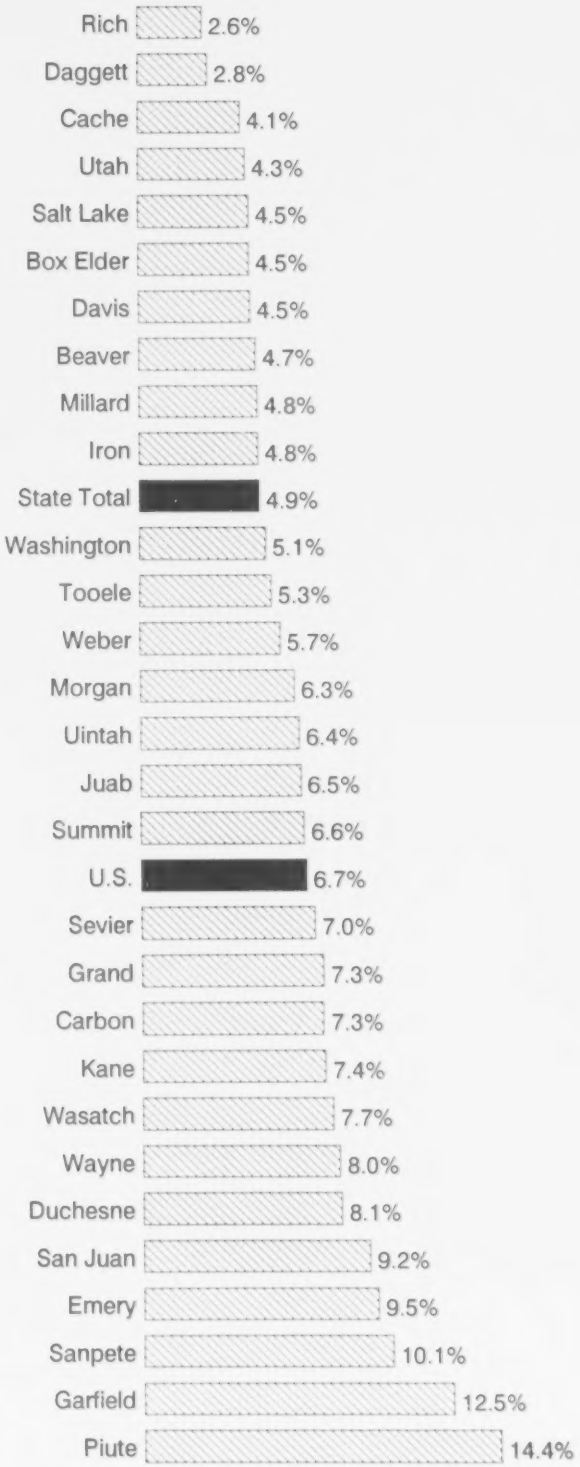
John T. Mathews
Labor Market Economist

Building on a Good Thing—Utah Housing Markets

In a recent publication of *U.S. Housing Markets*, Salt Lake City ranked:

- ***Third in 1991 growth in total authorized housing permits (up 23 percent).***
- ***Third in 1991 growth in single family dwellings (up 27 percent).***
- ***Next to the lowest in apartment vacancy rates (3.1 percent in November).***
- ***Fourth from the bottom in the sales price of existing homes ($71,700 median in fourth quarter 1991).***
- ***Utah ranked fifth in the year-over fourth quarter increase in sales of existing homes (up 26 percent).***❐

Utah Annual Average Unemployment Rates by County



Source: Utah Dept. of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

Utah Labor Market Report

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Notes

(f)—forecast.

(p)—preliminary.

(r)—revised.

Salt Lake/Ogden Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)—Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber counties.

Provo/Orem Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)—Utah County.

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